

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-33 are amended. Entry of the amendments is requested because the amendments respond to specific formal objections to the claims raised for the first time in the October 21, 2003, Office Action. No new matter is added.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection

The Office Action rejects claims 1-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for containing asserted informalities. Applicants believe that this rejection is overcome with the above amendments to claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-33. Should the Examiner believe that any additional informalities exist, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to discuss any such asserted informalities. Otherwise, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, are respectively requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit

any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, making reference to Attorney Docket No. 024118-00011.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert K. Carpenter", written over a horizontal line.

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RKC/tdd